

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—Cartridge Actuated Device/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD) and Support

The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy additional Cartridge Actuated Device/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD) and support that will be added to a previously implemented case that was under Congressional notification threshold. The original FMS case, valued at \$48.2 million, included CAD/PAD items and support for Calendar Years 2025–2026 (CY25–CY26). This notification is for CAD/PAD items and support of Kuwait's F/A-18 and KC-130/J aircraft fleet. Also included is engineering, technical, and program support and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated cost is \$59.1 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will provide Kuwait with the equipment and sustainment support necessary to maintain its air defense capacity to defend its territorial integrity and to meet its national defense requirements. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors are currently unknown, as there will be competitive contract solicitations after FMS case implementation. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Kuwait.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-04

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. Cartridge Actuated Device/Propellant Actuated Device (CAD/PADs) are the explosive devices installed within the aircraft escape and safety systems to save lives during emergencies. CAD/PAD are also used to power the aircraft systems that deploy weapons and jettison equipment.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Kuwait can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Kuwait.

ISRAEL

Ms. KLOBUCHER. Mr. President, I rise to talk about recent developments in Israel. Israel is America's ally and partner in intelligence and defense. Our Nation's relationship with Israel is built upon shared democratic values that have united our countries throughout the last 75 years.

The decision this week of the Netanyahu government in Israel to suspend the proposed judicial legislation opens the door for Israelis to find a path forward. For Israel to remain a bedrock for democracies globally, it must have an independent judiciary, support for the rule of law, and a system of proper checks and balances.

 TRIBUTE TO DARNELL DEMASTERS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the career of Darnell DeMasters, who will retire from her position as vice president of Federal Government Affairs at WEC Energy Group on April 4.

Over the past 25 years, Darnell has worked on behalf of customers in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, and Minnesota, advocating for their energy needs before Congress and ensuring lawmakers understand the impact of legislation on their constituents. Prior to her time with WEC Energy Group, Darnell spent many years on Capitol Hill and later transitioned to positions in government affairs for the Duquesne Light Company and General Public Utilities.

Darnell was also instrumental in re-establishing and leading the Wisconsin Group, a nonpartisan, nonadvocacy organization to discuss public policy matters and government actions affecting Wisconsin's business, educational, public sector, and political communities.

Outside of her working hours, Darnell is an active member of the executive board of The Woman's Club of Fairfax, GFWC, a unified group of women dedicated to enhancing the lives of families and strengthening their community through charitable work, donations, and volunteer service.

I am fortunate to have worked with Darnell in her capacity at WEC Energy Group for many years. Her efforts to re-establish the Wisconsin Group as a forum to connect Wisconsinites and Wisconsin organizations in Washington, DC, have proven to be valuable, and my staff and I have regularly enjoyed the connection and community they have fostered.

I know Darnell's colleagues will miss her thoughtful and expert guidance, good humor, and deep knowledge. I am grateful for all of the work Darnell has done for the people of Wisconsin, and I wish her all the best as she begins a new chapter in her retirement.

 TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JOSEPH ELLWANGER

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the exceptional career and life of Rev. Joseph Ellwanger. Reverend Ellwanger is a pillar of the Milwaukee community and has left an indelible mark on the lives of so many. From his early career as a pastor in Alabama standing with civil rights leaders, to his ongoing work to reintegrate formerly incarcerated people into their home communities, Rev. Joseph Ellwanger has put into action his faith to affirm all people.

Reverend Ellwanger was born in St. Louis, MO, but grew up in Selma, AL. He left his childhood home when St. Paul Lutheran Church, an African-American congregation in Birmingham, requested a pastoral candidate. During his time with St. Paul's he joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's fight for civil rights. Reverend Ellwanger attended civil rights meetings and eventually received an invitation to meet with the SCLC's steering committee, where he met Dr. Martin Luther King. Reverend Ellwanger was the lone White pastor to join the movement, and he stood undeterred by challenges from his conservative denomination. He recruited both students and clergy to join with him in the civil rights movement. On March 6, 1965, the day before Bloody Sunday, Ellwanger led a group of 72 White Alabamians to Selma to participate in the Concerned White Citizens march supporting voting rights for African-Americans.

Reverend Ellwanger joined the National Council of Christian Churches and met with President Lyndon Johnson after Bloody Sunday. This meeting brought together a group of clergymen from a broad spectrum of denominations to communicate to President Johnson that the religious community supported the Voting Rights Act.

Reverend Ellwanger's work for equal justice has been ongoing. From Alabama, he moved to Milwaukee, WI, where he was a Lutheran pastor for decades. He continues to work for voting rights and is a founding member of Project RETURN to help individuals who have experienced incarceration make a positive, permanent return to community, family, and friends.

As Reverend Ellwanger celebrates his 90th birthday, I am pleased to join others in recognizing the contributions he has made to the people of Milwaukee, our State, and our Nation.

 TRIBUTE TO SCOTT LEONARD

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the long career of Scott Leonard, of Milwaukee, as he retires from Amtrak after 19 years of dedicated service. Born in Milwaukee on April 2, 1961, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1984. His first job was with the blood services division of the American Red Cross, first in Wisconsin, then in Washington, DC.